

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 233-0696  
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7277**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1135

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 4, 2007

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Absentee Ballots.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Tyler

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill permits a voter who is qualified to vote in person to vote by absentee ballot. The bill removes all other qualifications for a voter to vote by absentee ballot except for a voter with disabilities who is unable to make a voting mark on the ballot or sign the absentee ballot secrecy envelope. (Such a disabled voter is currently required to vote before an absentee voter board.)

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2007.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** *Summary-* County election boards, particularly counties with direct recording electronic voting systems, would need to have more paper ballots available for voters choosing to vote absentee. Therefore, this provision could increase election board ballot expenditures. The actual impact to local expenditures would depend on the amount of additional ballots ordered by counties in future elections.

*Ballot cost-* Optical scan ballot costs depend on the contract in place between the county and vendor. As an example, Marion County, which is the largest county using optical scan with approximately 600,000 ballots produced, had a ballot cost of \$0.32 per ballot for the 2006 general election.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** County election boards.

**Information Sources:** Jennifer Handlon, City of Indianapolis, Marion County Election Board, 327-5100.

**Fiscal Analyst:** Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.